

REMARKS

Claims 72 and 73 are canceled. New claims 74-80 are presented for the Primary Examiner's consideration.

The drawings were objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference sign(s) not mentioned in the description: 43 (see Fig. 7). A replacement sheet for page 12 adding text referencing numeral 43 is appended hereto. Withdrawal of the objection is requested.

The present inventions in one aspect recite a system including a cable closure and fiber optic cables. See the instant specification for example: Figs. 6-13; p. 2a (AMENDED SHEET), ll. 1-35; pp. 12-13; and pp. 17. The cables have at least two components, namely, a "pipe" and a waveguide. Simply put, the fiber optic cables are described as being, for example, mini-cables or micro-cables having pipes in which multiple optical waveguides are disposed. The cable closure has exemplary lead-in spigots that can be in the form of "pipes" fitted on the closure body. The pipes of the cables are associated with the lead-in spigots by a connection. The connection being related to "pipe connection technology" for sealing off the pipes of the cables. The pipe connection is between the pipe of the cable and the lead in-spigot and can be, for example, a welded, soldered, crimped, shrink tube, or otherwise bonded connection. The connection essentially fixes the cable pipe to the lead-in spigot, inhibiting or essentially preventing movement of the cable pipe with respect to the lead-in spigot. In other words, all components of the cable do not enter the interior space 23 of the closure body. The specification indicates that use of thin pipes in the cables, for example, can result in lower costs because the pipes of the cables can be installed in slits in

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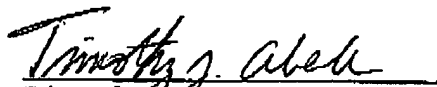
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surfaces. The present disclosure suggests a network structure as well. GB Publication No. 2277812 ('812) describes a container 1. See Figs. 1-5 and pp. 1-5 of the '812 publication. Cables 7 (heavy black lines of Figs. 1-5) are guided through inlet nozzles 25. Cables 7 are required to be wholly inserted through inlet nozzles 25; in other words, all components of the cable enter the container 1. A bushing seal or mesh fabric can be used as a seal on the exterior of cables 7; however, no cable component has a terminal end at the seal. Rather, the entirety of the cable completely traverses the inlet pipe as it passes therethrough into the container 1. The cables 7 are therefore required to be movable in the cable inlet nozzles, relative to the seal, during and after installation. In addition, the skilled artisan would have understood cable 7 of the '812 publication is not disclosed as a pipe, and the cable inlet nozzle 25 is not a cable.

Allowance of new claims 74-80 is believed to be warranted and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In The Specification:

Paragraph beginning at line 7 of page 12 has been amended as follows:

Represented in Figure 6 is a cylindrical cable closure 5 for microcables, which is closed off towards the earth side in a hood shape and is accessible from the surface 6 via a cover 20. The cover 20 can withstand high loading and closes off the cable closure 5 pressure-watertightly by means of a sealing system 21. In the case of this embodiment shown, the cable lead-in unit 13 is housed in the upper part of the closure, to which the pipe 43 (Fig. 7) of the microcable is connected in a pressure-tight manner, with the aid of an adaptation sleeve 87. The optical waveguides 11 are led in through this cable lead-in unit 13 and deposited in excess lengths on a plurality of levels within the closure space. Here, the excess lengths 30 of the led-in optical waveguides are stored in the upper deck 28 and the excess lengths 38 of the outgoing optical waveguides are stored in the lower deck 28a. The lead-throughs 41 in the respective separating plates 29 make it possible for the optical waveguides to be led through from one level to the other. The lower region of the cable closure serves as splicing space 23, in which the splices 26 are fastened on removable splice organizers 32. If service or splicing work is necessary, after removal of the cover 20 the excess-length assemblies 30 and 38 are taken out, so that finally the splice organizers can be removed. The hood-shaped termination of the inner wall 22 of the cable closure 5 is curved such that it can serve as a guide for the optical waveguides 31 leading to the splices. The marking 25 is intended to indicate that corresponding guides for optical waveguides or optical waveguide groups can also be used in the splicing space, allowing

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the clarity of the arrangement to be improved. The leading away of the optical waveguides into the connected pipe of the outgoing microcable takes place in turn via a cable lead-in unit 13, which is arranged here on the level of the storage space 28a for the outgoing optical waveguides 38. The sleeve-shaped cable lead-in units 13 are drawn here diagrammatically as crimpable lead-throughs, but according to the special configuration provided by the invention they may also be fitted on tangentially, so that here too the advantages described above come to bear.

In The Claims:

Cancel claims 72-73.

Kindly add the following new claims:

74. (new) Optical-fiber transmission system, comprising a cable closure body and fiber optic cables, said system further comprising:

- (a) cable lead-in spigots, said cable lead-in spigots being attached to said cable closure body and being in communication with an interior space of the closure body;
- (b) said fiber optic cables comprising waveguide-receiving pipes and optical waveguides, said waveguide-receiving pipes respectively having at least one optical waveguide therein, said waveguide-receiving pipes being respectively associated with said lead-in spigots; and
- (c) said waveguide-receiving pipes being connected to said lead-in spigots by respective sealing connections, said waveguide-receiving pipes terminating at said sealing connection and being disposed exteriorly of said closure body interior space, and respective said waveguides passing said sealing connections and entering said closure body interior space.

75. (new) The system of claim 74, said sealing connection comprising a welded, soldered, crimped, shrink tube, or bonded connection.

76. (new) The system of claim 74, said lead-in spigots comprising respective pipes, said waveguide-receiving pipes being respectively sealingly connected to the lead-in spigot pipes, said sealing connections thereby formed inhibiting or essentially preventing movement of the cable pipes with respect to the lead-in spigot pipes.

77. (new) The system of claim 74, said sealing connections

comprising respective sleeves having respective interior surfaces, said interior surfaces fittingly contacting said lead-in spigots and said waveguide-receiving pipes.

78. (new) The system of claim 74, said lead-in spigots and said waveguide-receiving pipes having respective terminal end sections, said respective end sections being in contact.

79. (new) The system of claim 74, said interior space of said closure body comprising an arcuate base section.

80. (new) The system of claim 74, said interior space being defined by a wall surface of the closure body, said wall surface comprising at least one ledge for supporting a waveguide tray.